

Hook, Line & Sinker



Cumberland Lakes Newsletter, Monterey, TN

Fall 2023 Edition

FROM THE DESK OF THE P.O.A. PRESIDENT:

Wow! Just like that it's the middle of October. Did we shorten the year, and I missed the memo??? Cooler temps and falling leaves are here... Yes, I'm assuring you that you CAN win the battle with your leaves and at some point, they WILL stop falling. Lol

We still have one more mow of the common areas and one more mow of the roads to go for this year. This way it'll mulch up some of the leaves and the grass will be at a good height for the winter. Hopefully the weather will cooperate to get this done.

As you are doing your fall cleanup, please remember that if you are going to burn, permits are required from Oct. 15th to May 15th. Please be smart in your burning, by never leaving it unattended, have a water source nearby, and extinguish it completely when done. Remember, we have backpack blowers, chainsaws, a small chipper, brush hog, and leaf burning canisters for property owners to use for a nominal fee. Contact Louie Check for availability at 909-838-1543.

Be on the lookout for baby snakes when hiking or when cleaning up around your property. Use caution when using your hands close to the ground as they blend well in and around leaves. Pay attention to curious dogs that like to sniff the ground, as they come upon snakes quickly and are unaware. Brush off your best chili recipe and get it ready for the Chili Cookoff on October 28th. How about playing games? Take a look at the calendar of events for upcoming fun.

It is time for voting for the next 2024-2025 Cumberland Lakes POA Board. Ballots were mailed out via USPS on September 30th. DO NOT wait to fill them out because they need to be postmarked by November 1st to be counted. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Michael Perkowski
Cumberland Lakes POA President

FIREWISE:

Again, on August 6, our community experienced another extremely windy storm causing many trees and branches to fall. Thanks much to the many volunteers who quickly helped to clear our roads and Right of Ways. These volunteers have saved our board many dollars of expenses to that would have been spent to contract for removal. So far, these amazing community members have saved us in the area of probably \$100,000.

Again, this year has been somewhat warm and dry. We have been fairly lucky that the hot conditions have been accompanied by higher humidity which helped keep us out of any drought conditions. Our Tennessee forestry group is composed of 114 personnel and 54 pieces of equipment. So far this year, we have deployed 11 personnel and 8 pieces of equipment to Louisiana, 35 personnel and 35 pieces of equipment to Texas and 22 personnel with 6 pieces of equipment to Idaho. This has been an opportunity for our state to offer assistance and our personnel to supplement valuable training that can be used here at home in our state.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:

On the first of September, there was an article in the Crossville Chronicle, urging residents to go to the E-911 website: <https://www.cumberlandtn911.org/familyresident-safety-survey> and complete the (confidential) survey. Information from this survey will be used by emergency personnel during an emergency call, should one be made from your residence. Some of the information they are looking for is the square footage of your home or if there is a physically challenged person on site that needs to exit via a specific door, this information will be available to responders before they arrive. For example, the size of the home will tell responders the amount of personnel and or equipment necessary to respond to a fire.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL:

Approved Projects:

1. New Residence, 81 Mart Street
2. Fencing, canopy and solar lights, 385 Austin Drive.
3. New residence Willow Lane.
4. Addition, 86 North Lake Trail.

PARK/LAKES MANAGEMENT & IMPROVEMENT:

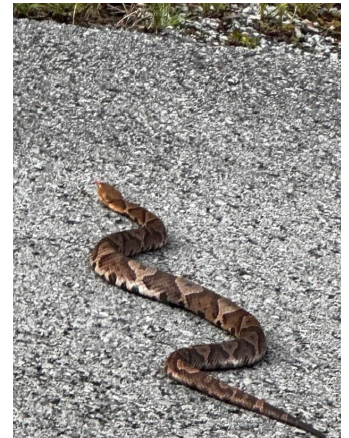
Our Lakes appear to be healthy, maintaining full pool or close to it and the fishing seems to be staying consistent. Most bass being caught are in the range of 1-2.5 lbs but occasionally there are those that exceed 5-6 lbs. Remember, all bass are catch and release. It is strongly suggested that since we are to release bass, handling and time out of water should be kept at a minimum (picture taking, etc.).

I've heard many comments about our geese numbers this summer and if there was any legal, successful way to reduce them. Although this is more of a problem for those with lakefront property, it is a real problem. I counted 60+ geese a few times and the average appeared to be around 40-50. If you don't have property that they frequent, imagine if you had 50 small dogs visiting your yard several times/day to relieve themselves; it's a real mess and problem. The problems, according to biologists: 4 adult geese produce as much phosphorus as 1 septic system in a year, much of that ending up in the lake; an adult goose produces 1-1 3/4lbs manure/day which is high in nutrients that can cause algae blooms which are harmful to fish; goose manure carries parasites including cryptosporidium, giardia, coliform and campylobacter.

According to TWRA, population control involves euthanizing and nest/egg disruption. With this in mind, we are probably left with other options such as hazing (both visual and audible methods can be effective). For the past month, numbers have been way down; seems like they finally found a more appealing home.

Our deluge of rain in mid-July sent the lake level quite high but the overflow systems in all lakes managed the water volumes efficiently. Thanks to the volunteers on Lazy Lake that cleared debris from the overflow grate!

Lastly, although maintained yards will not attract them as much, Copperheads are still something to be aware of, especially if you are working in/around rocks, stacks of wood, under heavy brush or other hiding areas. In case you see a snake swimming in our lakes, according to a wildlife officer, if the snake is swimming with its head out of the water and its body submerged, it's likely non-venomous; if it's swimming with its entire body on the surface, good chance of being venomous. **Just be careful!**



ACTIVITIES:

First Day of Summer was kicked off with an Ice Cream Social & Game Night. Neighbors enjoyed making sundaes and playing cards. Game night continues to be a fun event the 3rd Wednesday of most months from 6p-8p.



Ice Cream Social



July 4th BBQ hosted by the Activities committee had a great turnout of neighbors and several visiting family members. We had a super time with the bake walk, kids playing with water balloons and yard games.



August Potluck Chris & Wayne had quite the crowd at the Western themed monthly potluck they hosted. Cumberland Lakes neighbors moseyed on over to the Community Center with delicious dishes including Chuck wagon tri tip, Pork Belly Brisket, Campfire beans, Bunkhouse, Cowboy caviar and Cowboy hat cupcakes!



Labor Day Luau neighbors dressed in tropical, festive attire, and were greeted with a Hawaiian lei symbolizing friendship and celebration. It was a relaxing time hanging out, enjoying tropical music, and indulged in plenty of pineapple laced dishes and summertime favorites.



NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES:

A big thank you to Wendy and Michael Perkowski for their kind donation of a Roku for the TV to the Community Center



Meals to Heal program:

A knock on the door, a delicious meal and a smiling face is what this program offers to members of our community who are in a stage of recovery. Meals to Heal is a Cumberland Lakes community generated program that boosts an eight-volunteer cook roster. Although we are all an independent lot, here in Cumberland Lakes, we also know that now and again, a warm meal could be just the ticket to help a neighbor through a tough spot.

Here's how the program works: if a neighbor is in recovery from a medical treatment, injury or loss, the Meals to Heal coordinator will contact them to ask if the program can assist. Once the neighbor's food restrictions, preferred time of delivery and any other preferences are known, the coordinator then calls the next volunteer cook on the roster and begins the process. This program is designed to be short term assistance. All personal health or circumstance details are kept confidential. The program does not receive any funding.

Meals to Heal works best when the program can be available to all Cumberland Lakes residents who are in recovery. So, if you or one of your neighbors fits the description above, please consider having our own Meals to Heal program knock on the door, provide a delicious meal and share a neighborly moment or two with someone whose recovery may go just a bit faster because of a neighbor.

For more information, please contact Connie McDonald, Meals to Heal program coordinator - @ 931-839-7042 or ConnieMcD@aol.com.

Community Center Rental

The Community Center is available for property owners private use if it is not already reserved.

The center has a full kitchen, tables and chairs and Spectrum internet.

We have had property owners reserve the center for football game celebrations, birthdays, wedding receptions and family reunions. It is available for a small rental fee and refundable deposit.

The center has been reserved for family reunions, game nights, activity events, board workshops and quarterly board

To reserve the center, you can contact me at [lazylakelivin@gmail](mailto:lazylakelivin@gmail.com) until December 31st. After that date there will need to be a new coordinator. This is a great opportunity to "put your toe in the water" to try volunteering in our community.

If you are interested, contact our current president Michael Perkowski for further information.

Message from Karen Dunn:

Hello all. It has been my pleasure to serve on your board of directors for many years but it is time for others to become involved and share new ideas and goals for our community. I have also chaired the Welcome committee and the Community Center reservations so if anyone would like to get involved these two positions will be open in January and I will be happy to share all of my information with you. They both are great programs and fairly easy to manage.

In past elections, since I was a candidate, I did not feel it was appropriate to address questions about board membership. This is in response to many questions I received from property owners who either did not live here or were seasonal residents and unfortunately did not have an opportunity to meet any of the candidates and were not sure how to vote. Of course, I cannot tell you how to vote, but after serving on the board both as an officer and member at large and several other boards before moving to Cumberland Lakes I do have ideas that I would like to share. These are just my opinion from experience!

First and foremost, I feel that the main goal of a board member is to ensure that all property values are safeguarded and that we are financially stable for most future projects as they occur such as maintaining our lakes, dams and Community Center.

The board works as a team and what's needed are a variety of skills from each member to accomplish these goals. All members should have experience in working with budgets and contracts of some sort. They should be able to take on an assigned project from start to finish without constant assistance from other board members who have their own projects. It is important that each member looks at the "big picture" of the best interest of the community not just a personal project. Board members many times do not agree but need to be open to discussing a solution that all are agreeable to, or nothing gets completed. The last important factor I feel is community involvement. I think it would be almost impossible to represent the community if you aren't familiar with residents and their reasons for choosing our community

With all that said I think we have a great community and many capable neighbors who have so much to contribute so I look forward to a new board and fresh ideas.

Thank you all again for trusting me to guide our community into the future.
Karen Dunn



IT'S PUZZLING:

A bit of Fall Trivia:

1. What sugary treat is named after a vegetable and usually has three different colored sections?
2. What is the name of the substance in leaves that breaks down, revealing the colors of fall?
3. Name three things found in pumpkin spice.
4. What trees stay green all year long?
5. How long does it take for a pumpkin to grow and become ready to harvest?
6. What insect travels from the U.S. to Mexico in the fall?
7. Pumpkin seeds are rich in what mineral nutrient (name at least one)?
8. Are pumpkins a vegetable or a fruit?
9. Which U.S. state produces the most pumpkins?

FALL WORD SEARCH

H J N I F I P J K R F H R E T
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ACORN

APPLES

AUTUMN

CANDY

CIDER

FOOTBALL

HALLOWEEN

HARVEST

HAYRIDE

LEAVES

NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

PUMPKIN

RAKE

SCARECROW

SEPTEMBER

SUNFLOWER

SWEATER

THANKSGIVING

TURKEY

FUR BABIES OF CL SPOTLIGHT:

The Brady Bunch- Henry the German Shepherd, Tommy the Ginger & Sally the Tabby

If you pass by the Brady's house, you will most likely see our German Shepherd dog, sweet, beautiful Henry, he's surely Laura's boy!

We have a fence around the house, but Henry loves being outside in our 2 acre yard, playing "chuck it" ball. He lives and breathes for the next chance to play. Henry has a love for other dogs and their owners too. Beware of getting licked if he is playing ball and you are walking by!

The only way you will meet our 2 cats, Tommy & Sally (she owns Kevin), is if you come inside. They just love being inside. We are both allergic to cats, but we rescued them both (isn't that how most people are introduced to the world of cats?). Our 3 story house keeps them busy and active, with lots of perching options, and a love for each other. We are amazed by them and are still learning the life of cats, and so is Henry!



Henry



Tommy



Sally



CRITTER CORNER



The Eastern Spotted and Striped Skunk

Did you know there are two types of Skunks in Tennessee?

Yep, the Eastern Spotted Skunk and the Striped Skunk

Of the two skunks living in Tennessee, the Eastern Spotted Skunk is slightly smaller and less common. They are found in the eastern and middle parts of the state.

Breeding information is only slightly different: Skunks start breeding in late February and usually only have one litter annually. The gestation period lasts 62-66 days, but sometimes up to 75 days. Litters of 2-16 (usually 4-6) young are born in May or June. The blind newborns are furless, but have the black and white color pattern on their skin. Eyes open when they are about 3 weeks old. They will hunt with the mother for the first time around 7 weeks and weaning occurs at 8 weeks.

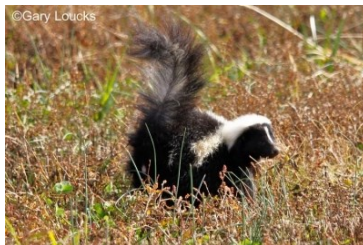
Striped Skunk:

Length: 20.0 - 30.0 inches

Tail: 7.0 - 15.0 inches

Ears: 0.8 - 1.0 inches

Weight: 3.5 - 10.0 pounds



Spotted Skunk:

Length: 14.0 - 22.0 inches

Tail: 4.5 - 9.0 inches

Ears: 1.0 - 1.1 inches

Weight: 0.75 - 2.75 pounds



Diets are very similar: Eats equal amounts of animal and plant foods but eats more insects and animals in the spring and summer. Preferred foods are insects such as grasshoppers, crickets, and beetles; also eats bees, wasps, mice, lizards, snakes, crayfish, bird eggs, and mushrooms.

Striped Skunk Fun Facts:

When threatened, it can spray its scent 10-15 feet; the smell can reach up to a mile away.

The Great Horned Owl is the chief predator of skunks; the skunk's odor does not seem to deter them.

Eastern Spotted Skunk Fun Facts:

As a defensive tactic they will conduct a headstand, move towards the threat balancing on its forelegs, and direct the tail (and scent glands) towards the threat.

Their scent is stronger than the similar Striped Skunk

Weird TN Law: Carrying a skunk across state borders into Tennessee is illegal!

According to TCA 70-4-208, the "unlawful importation of skunks" is prohibited in the Volunteer State, except by zoos and research facilities. Additionally, those with a "valid wildlife rehabilitation" permit may receive skunks from the wild for the purpose of rehabilitation and release only.

Ref: <https://www.wate.com/news/tennessee/law-or-legend-tennessee-laws-that-may-not-actually-be-laws/>, <https://www.tn.gov/twra>

Nosh Nook:

Crunch Bars (contributed by Julie Check)

- 35 saltine crackers
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 pkg. (4 oz. each) BAKER'S Semi-Sweet Chocolate, chopped
- 1 cup chopped walnuts, toasted



Heat oven to 400°F.

Place crackers in single layer on bottom of foil-lined 15x10x1-inch pan.

Cook butter and sugar in saucepan on medium-high heat until butter is melted and mixture is well blended, stirring occasionally. Bring to boil; cook 3 min. (Do not stir.) Pour over crackers; spread to evenly cover crackers.

Bake 5 to 7 min. or until topping is golden brown. Immediately sprinkle with chocolate; let stand 5 min. or until softened. Spread over crackers, top with nuts. Cool completely before breaking into pieces.

It's Puzzling - Trivia Answers:

1. Candy Corn
2. Chlorophyll
3. Cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, allspice, ginger
4. Evergreens
5. Around 90 to 120 days
6. Monarch butterflies
7. Magnesium, zinc, phosphorus, potassium
8. Fruit
9. Illinois
10. New England

Note from the Editor:

If you take unique pics, wildlife pics, extraordinary lake shots or others that you would like to see in next quarter's Hook, Line & Sinker Newsletter, please send them to me (dawn.dayton@gmail.com) with a tagline and I will be glad to add them to the next edition.

D.